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DEPARTMENT FOR WHA/CEN, S/WCI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/21/2026
TAGS: [MOPS](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [KAWC](#) [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [PINR](#) [NU](#)
SUBJECT: NICARAGUA STILL CONSIDERING RESETTLEMENT OF
GUANTANAMO DETAINEES

REF: A. MANAGUA 0755

[1](#)B. STATE 48524

Classified By: Ambassador Paul A. Trivelli. Reasons 1.4 (B,D).

(S) On April 20, Ambassador revisited with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Norman Caldera the possible resettlement of part, or all of, the 16 Uighur men of Chinese nationality that the USG has in detention at Guantanamo. Caldera replied that he has not finished discussing the matter with all Nicaraguan parties that would be involved; he voiced concern, however that the Uighurs could become an economic burden in Nicaragua, a poor country with high unemployment. Caldera suggested that perhaps the GON could accept some of the Uighurs, who perhaps could work in the Free Trade Zone where several Taiwanese companies operate. Ambassador noted that some of the men speak Mandarin and would have a common language with the Taiwanese. He provided biographical information on the Uighurs, noting that some have experience in the clothing and shoe industries, which could be of use to the Free Trade Zone's clothing industries. Caldera will continue his rounds of consultations with the proper Nicaraguan authorities and with the director of the Free Trade Zone. (Comment: Some sort of monetary support for resettlement might prompt the GON to accept a few of the Uighurs. End Comment.)
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